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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

[Docket No. DHS-2014-0048]

President's National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee

AGENCY: National Protection and Programs Directorate, DHS.

ACTION: Committee Management; Notice of Partially Closed Federal Advisory Committee Meeting.

SUMMARY: The President's National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee (NSTAC) will meet on Wednesday, November 19, 2014, in Washington D.C. The meeting will be partially closed to the public.

DATES: The NSTAC will meet in a closed session on Wednesday, November 19, 2014, from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and in an open session on Wednesday, November 19, 2014, from 10:40 a.m. to 2:40 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The open, public session will be held at the Department of Homeland Security Immigration and Customs Enforcement facility, 500 12th Street SW, Washington D.C., and will begin at 10:40 a.m. For information on facilities or services for individuals with disabilities, to request special

assistance at the meeting, or to attend in person contact nstac@dhs.gov as soon as possible.

We are inviting public comment on the issues the NSTAC will consider, as listed in the "Supplementary Information" section below. Associated briefing materials that will be discussed at the meeting will be available at www.dhs.gov/nstac for review as of November 5, 2014. Comments must be identified by **docket number DHS-2014-0048** and may be submitted by one of the following methods:

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- **E-mail:** NSTAC@dhs.gov. Include the docket number in the subject line of the message.
- **Fax:** 703-235-5962, Attn: Sandy Benevides.
- **Mail:** Designated Federal Officer, National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee, National Protection and Programs Directorate, Department of Homeland Security, 245 Murray Lane, Mail Stop 0615, Arlington VA 20598-0615.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the words "Department of Homeland Security" and the docket number for this action. Comments received will be posted without alteration at <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received by the NSTAC, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>, referencing docket number DHS-2014-0048.

A public comment period will be held during the open portion of the meeting on Wednesday, November 19, 2014, from 1:35 p.m. to 2:05 p.m., and speakers are requested to limit their comments to three minutes. Please note that the public comment period may end before the time indicated, following the last call for comments. Contact Sandy Benevides at 703-235-5408 or Sandra.Benevides@dhs.gov to register as a speaker by close of business on November 17, 2014. Speakers will be accommodated in order of registration within the constraints of the time allotted to public comment.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Helen Jackson, NSTAC Designated Federal Officer, Department of Homeland Security, telephone (703)235-5321 or Helen.Jackson@dhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice of this meeting is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. Appendix. The NSTAC advises the President on matters related to national security and emergency preparedness (NS/EP) telecommunications policy.

Agenda: The committee will meet in the open session to engage in an update of the Federal Communications Commission's current priorities; a discussion of the Department of Justice's Anti-Trust Guidelines; the current priorities and accomplishments of the First Responder Network Authority; a panel discussion of the interdependencies between the Communications and Electric Power Sector. The NSTAC members will deliberate and vote on the *NSTAC Report to the President on the Cybersecurity Implications of the Internet of Things* and the *NSTAC Report to the President on Information and Communications Technology Mobilization*. Both reports will be available at www.dhs.gov/nstac as of November 5, 2014.

The NSTAC will meet in a closed session to hear a classified briefing regarding emerging threats to the communications infrastructure and to discuss the potential future NSTAC study topics.

Basis for Closure: In accordance with 5 U.S.C. § 552b(c), *The Government in the Sunshine Act*, it has been determined that two agenda items require closure as the disclosure of the information would not be in the public interest.

The first of these agenda items, the classified briefing, will provide members with information on nation-state capabilities and strategic threats. Such threats target national communications infrastructure and impact industry's

long-term competitiveness and growth, as well as the Government's ability to mitigate threats. Malicious actors continue to advance their techniques to exploit critical infrastructure networks and poses serious challenges for the communications sector. Disclosure of these threats would provide criminals who wish to intrude into commercial and Government networks with information on potential vulnerabilities and mitigation techniques, also weakening existing cybersecurity defense tactics. This briefing will be classified at the top secret level, thereby exempting disclosure of the content by statute. Therefore, this portion of the meeting is required to be closed pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552b(c) (1) (A) .

The second agenda item, the discussion of potential NSTAC study topics, will address areas of critical cybersecurity vulnerabilities and priorities for Government. Government officials will share data with NSTAC members on initiatives, assessments, and future security requirements across public and private networks. The data to be shared includes specific vulnerabilities within cyberspace that affect the Nation's communications and information technology infrastructures and proposed mitigation strategies. Disclosure of this information to the public would provide criminals with an incentive to focus on these vulnerabilities to increase

attacks on our cyber and communications networks. Therefore, this portion of the meeting is likely to significantly frustrate implementation of proposed DHS actions and is required to be closed pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552b(c)(9)(B).

Dated: October 28, 2014

Helen Jackson,
Designated Federal Officer for the NSTAC.

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